U S Army Corps of Engineers
Pittsburgh District
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Federal Authorization

- Section 404 of the Clean Water Act
  - Dischargers of dredge or fill material within All Waters of the U.S.
- Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act
  - Structures within Navigable Waters

Definitions of Waters

- Navigable waters
- All Waters
  - Ponds, lakes, rivers, and streams – defined by Ordinary High Water Mark
  - Stream can be ephemeral, intermittent, or perennial
  - Wetlands – Area inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions
  - Soils Vegetation and Hydrology

Are there Jurisdictional Waters located on site?

DRAFT

PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

WETLAND BOUNDARY VERIFICATION CHECKLIST

For a preliminary jurisdictional determination only, provide items no. 1 through 7. In order to receive a final wetland boundary verification that can be appealed, provide items no. 1 through 13.

1. ____ **Written** request for a wetland determination and/or delineation verification
2. ____ **Directions** to the site from Pittsburgh
3. ____ **Vicinity map** including the exact location of the proposed project. It should include the nearest intersection of two state highways, identifiable reference points, and concise directions to the site. A USGS Quad is preferred.
4. ____ **Property boundaries or aquatic resource study area/area of review** (if different from property boundary)
5. ____ **Contact Information** of the current property owner(s) and applicants if different and agent if applicable
6. ____ **Name of adjacent waterway(s)**. If the stream is unnamed, identify the receiving waters (e.g., unnamed tributary to Cattail Creek).
7. ____ **Site Map** with the Location of all wetlands, watercourses and/or drainage features identified; a scale appropriate for evaluation must be used (no greater than 1”=200’; 1’=50” or 1”=100’ is preferred)
8. ____ **Longitude and latitude or state plane coordinates.**
9. ____ **Map of the wetland boundary line and all other aquatic resources** map should be to scale and illustrate all aquatic resources including, but not limited to, streams (perennial, intermittent, ephemeral), wetlands, ponds, drainage ditches, etc. Include north arrow, title block with date, scale, drawing number, revision dates, roads and waterway names. Wetland/upland boundary line staked in the field; Mark flags in the field with corresponding number to points on map. Mapping grade (Differential Global Positioning System) DGPS will be acceptable survey method.
10. ____ **Reference information** (information from aerial photographs, NWI maps, soil surveys, FEMA (Flood Plain Map(s)), and/or local Flood Plain studies, USGS Quadrangle map). All information should have source, data and a scale.
11. ____ **Provide methodologies** used and the rationale for the choice of methodology (routine, comprehensive, atypical, etc.) employed to perform the delineation. The 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual and subsequent HQ guidance must be used for all wetland delineations.

Note: For sites greater than 5 acres, routine methodologies maybe utilized provided transects originating from an established baseline are reviewed in the field. Site conditions may warrant further comprehensive methodologies.

12. ____ **Data forms of both upland and wetland points** (wetland points for each unique community type) along the delineated boundary. Data forms should be complete and legible. Specify the location of the data collected. Provide a site map showing sampling points and transect locations.
13. ____ **Total acreage** of the site and wetlands and the linear feet of stream within the area of review (method for computation of wetland areas should be explained)
14. ____ **Optional items** that can be supplied that will assist in subsequent permit evaluations: Current land use; Proposed and existing structures and contours(clearly defined as such); Rate of average annual flow in cfs for streams; Stream drainage area and size; General geologic and topographic conditions; Onsite, ground level photographs from representative locations with photo index map identifying photograph location and direction); Environmental Assessment of aquatic resources on site; Cowardin Classification of wetland areas

***The Pittsburgh District reserves the right to require any or all of the above items. The Corps will use discretion to determine on a case by case basis if any of the above items will not be required prior to scheduling a site visit. **Revised 10/21/04**

Permitting

- Levels of Federal Authorization
  - Individual Department of the Army Permit
  - Nationwide Permit
  - General Permit
    - State Programmatic General Permit
- Joint Permit Process

PA SPGP-2

Pennsylvania State Programmatic General Permit

- Issued July 1, 2001
- Expires June 30, 2006
- Allows State to issue Federal Authorization with their action
- Impact up to 1 acre
- Three levels of review

Category 1 activities

- Corps notified when authorization is issued
- Less than ¼ acres of impact and/or 250 linear feet
- State GP’s and Waivers 3-10, 12, 13, and 15
- New GP-11 is reviewed as a Category III

Category II Activities

- Corps and Agencies notified through Pennsylvania Bulletin publication
  - Encroachment Permits
  - Dam Permits
  - Environmental Assessment Approvals
  - Waivers 11 and 16

Category III Activities

- Category I & II where Federal review is requested
- Greater than ¼ acre or 250 linear feet of stream channel
- Resource Concerns
  - Endangered Species, Historic Resources, Wild and Scenic
- Waivers 1, 2, and 14
- GP11

Category III Activities

- Agency Coordination
  USFWS
  USEPA
  PAFBC
  PHMC – if no clearance letter. If a phase I was recommended in their response letter, it will probably be required if action requires a COE review.

Waiver 2

- Less than a 100 acre watershed
- No wetlands
- Water obstruction not an encroachment
- Notification to the Corps required as a Category III activity
- Use the COE Short Form

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS SPGP WAIVER FORM

Section 404 Application and Checklist for Nationwide Permit and State Programmatic General Permit Activities (state waived actions) Draft 1/3/02

Applicant Name: _____
Address: _____
_____
Phone No.: _____
Agent or Contractor Name: _____
Address: _____
_____
Phone No.: _____
Project Name: _____
Location: City, Town or Borough: _____
Township: _____
County: _____
Stream or Waterbody: _____
Tributary to: _____
Directions to the Site_____
Property Size: _____acres
Project Purpose: _____
Project Description: _____
_____.
Attachments: Location Map _____USGS Quad Name:_____
Plan View Drawing of existing conditions _____
Plan View Drawing of Proposed conditions _____
Cross Section of all aquatic resource impacts _____
Photo's (optional) _____
State Authorization No.: _____
Archeological and Historic Clearance: Yes_____(date)_____ No_____
Endangered Species/PNDI Clearance: Yes_____(date)_____ No_____

Wetland Impacts:
Wetland Delineated? Yes_____ or No_____
Total Acres identified_____acres, Delineation Dated _____
Wetland Type: Emergent _____ acres
Shrub/Scrub_____ acres
Forested_____ acres
Proposed Impact Type: Fill_____acres and wetland type_____
Flood_____acres and wetland type_____ Drain_____acres and wetland type_____
Excavate_____acres and wetland type_____
Mitigation: Creation _____acres and wetland type _____
Restoration _____acres and wetland type _____
Enhancement_____acres and wetland type _____
Preservation _____ acres and wetland type _____
Replacement Fund/Bank/in-lieu fee_____acreage credits
Stream Impacts:
Total length of stream on property: _____feet
Total Length of impact: _____feet
Ephemeral _____feet
Intermittent _____feet
Perennial _____feet
Drainage area at downstream limit of disturbance. _____acres
Acreage of Stream disturbance. _____acres
Stream impact type: Fill or flood _____feet
Culvert or enclose_____feet
Relocate _____feet
Excavate or channelize_____feet
Stream Mitigation:
Relocation or creation _____feet _____acres
In-channel enhancements _____feet _____acres
Riparian enhancements _____feet _____acres
Corridor Preservation _____feet _____acres
Previously permitted activities: Permit No. _____
Description: _____
Signature of responsible party_____ Date_____
Rev 11/02

Notification Requirements

- Applicant information
- Location information
- Description – activity, purpose, area of impact, and quality of resource
- Drawings
- Photographs are helpful

Mitigation

- Avoidance – alternative analysis
- Minimization
- Compensatory Mitigation
- No Significant Impact on the Environment

Mitigation

- National Compensatory Mitigation Guidance issued December 24, 2002
- Watershed Based Approach
- Functional Replacement
- National Goal of No-Net Lost of Wetlands

NOV 12 2002

Stream Mitigation

- Dependent on impacts and resource functions and values
- May include in-stream channel improvements, riparian buffers, and conservation easements/ deed restrictions

NOV 12 2002

www.lrp.usace.army.mil
Regulatory/Permits
(412) 395-7152